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Review of the problem of human immunodeficiency virus/ acquired immunodeficiency syndrome in all its aspects

Letter dated 2 July 2001 from the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

During the general debate of the just-concluded twenty-sixth special session of the General Assembly on HIV/AIDS, delegates from a very few countries raised the so-called issue of "Taiwan's participation in the United Nations and the World Health Organization". In this regard, and upon instruction from my Government, I hereby state our position as follows:

The one-China principle has already been widely recognized by the international community. The great majority of the States Members of the United Nations have diplomatic relations with China and they have all acknowledged that there is only one China in the world, that the Government of the People's Republic of China is the sole legal Government representing the whole of China and that Taiwan is an inseparable part of China. In 1971, at the twenty-sixth session of the General Assembly, the Assembly adopted resolution 2758 (XXVI), which has solved once and for all, in political, legal and procedural terms, the issue of China's representation in the United Nations. The Government of the People's Republic of China rightfully represents all Chinese, including our compatriots in Taiwan, in the United Nations system and all its specialized agencies, including the World Health Organization. Therefore, there is simply no such issue as the so-called "Taiwan's participation in the United Nations and the World Health Organization".

The United Nations and the World Health Organization are intergovernmental international organizations composed of sovereign States. As a part of China, Taiwan is not eligible to participate, in whatever name and under whatever pretext, in the work or activities of the United Nations and the World Health Organization. However, that a very few countries, instigated by the Taiwan authorities, raised such a political issue on the platform of the special session of the General Assembly on HIV/AIDS, whose focus is and should only be on the discussion on combating HIV/AIDS, is absolutely inappropriate. Such an act is an attempt to create in the United Nations a situation of "two Chinas" or "one China, one Taiwan" and a violation of the purpose and principles of the Charter of the United Nations as well

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as of resolution 2758 (XXVI). It is a gross interference in China's internal affairs. The Chinese Government condemns this.

I have the honour to request that the present letter be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 179.

(*Signed*) **Wang** Yingfan
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Permanent Representative of the Permanent Mission
of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations